CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1.   A method to facilitate visual representation of an application to provide data to a user, said method comprising:

presenting a user interface area to display an application layout of said application, said application layout comprising a plurality of application icons and at least one connection that connects said plurality of application icons, each application icon corresponding to an application component of said application.

2.   The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

facilitating visual modification of said application layout.

3.   The method according to claim 2, wherein said facilitating further comprises:

facilitating selection of an application icon of said plurality of application icons; and

facilitating modification of a position of said application icon within said application layout.

4.   The method according to claim 3, wherein facilitating said selection further comprises:

facilitating display of said application icon in a highlighted color within said application layout.

5.   The method according to claim 3, wherein facilitating said modification of said position further comprises:

facilitating repositioning of at least one remaining application icon of said plurality of application icons connected to said application icon via said at least one connection.

6.   The method according to claim 2, wherein said facilitating further comprises:

facilitating selection of a connection of said at least one connection; and

facilitating modification of said connection within said application layout.

7.   The method according to claim 6, wherein facilitating said modification of said connection further comprises:

facilitating visual modification of a type of said connection.

8.   The method according to claim 7, wherein said type defines a two-point connection.

9.   The method according to claim 7, wherein said type defines a multi-point connection.

10.   The method according to claim 6, wherein facilitating said modification of said connection further comprises:

facilitating visual modification of a position of said connection between adjacent application icons within said application layout.

11.   The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

facilitating selection of a destination file to store said application layout; and

facilitating storage of said application layout in said destination file.

12.   The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

facilitating display of a scaled rendering of said application layout in an interactive window area adjacent to said user interface area.

13.   The method according to claim 12, further comprising:

facilitating selection of an application icon of said plurality of application icons in said interactive window area; and

responsive to said selection, facilitating selection of said application icon in said application layout within said user interface area.

14. The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

facilitating insertion of each application icon of said plurality of

application icons in said application layout; and

responsive to said insertion, facilitating dynamic linking of said each

application icon using said at least one connection.

15. The method according to claim 14, wherein facilitating said insertion

further comprises:

facilitating renaming of said application component corresponding to said

each application icon in said application layout.

16. The method according to claim 14, further comprising:

presenting a first interactive window area to enable said user to define

said application component; and

presenting a second interactive window area to enable said user to insert

text related to said application component in a predetermined language.

17. The method according to claim 14, wherein said application component is

an application business logic component.

18.   The method according to claim 14, wherein said application component is a data source component.

19.   The method according to claim 14, wherein said application component is a presentation logic component.

20.   A system to facilitate visual representation of an application to provide data to a user, said system comprising:

      means for presenting a user interface area to display an application layout of said application, said application layout comprising a plurality of application icons and at least one connection that connects said plurality of application icons, each application icon corresponding to an application component of said application.

21.   The system according to claim 20, further comprising:

      means for facilitating visual modification of said application layout.

22.   The system according to claim 21, further comprising:

      means for facilitating selection of an application icon of said plurality of application icons; and

      means for facilitating modification of a position of said application icon within said application layout.

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23.   The system according to claim 22, further comprising:

means for facilitating display of said application icon in a highlighted

color within said application layout.

24.   The system according to claim 22, further comprising:

means for facilitating repositioning of at least one remaining application

icon of said plurality of application icons connected to said application icon via

said at least one connection.

25.   The system according to claim 21, further comprising:

means for facilitating selection of a connection of said at least one

connection; and

means for facilitating modification of said connection within said

application layout.

26.   The system according to claim 25, further comprising:

means for facilitating visual modification of a type of said connection.

27.   The system according to claim 26, wherein said type defines a two-point

connection.

28.   The system according to claim 26, wherein said type defines a multi-point connection.

29.   The system according to claim 25, further comprising:

means for facilitating visual modification of a position of said connection between adjacent application icons within said application layout.

30.   The system according to claim 20, further comprising:

means for facilitating selection of a destination file to store said application layout; and

means for facilitating storage of said application layout in said destination file.

31.   The system according to claim 20, further comprising:

means for facilitating display of a scaled rendering of said application layout in an interactive window area adjacent to said user interface area.

32.   The system according to claim 31, further comprising:

means for facilitating selection of an application icon of said plurality of application icons in said interactive window area; and

responsive to said selection, means for facilitating selection of said application icon in said application layout within said user interface area.

33.   The system according to claim 20, further comprising:

means for facilitating insertion of each application icon of said plurality of application icons in said application layout; and

responsive to said insertion, means for facilitating dynamic linking of said each application icon using said at least one connection.

34.   The system according to claim 33, further comprising:

means for facilitating renaming of said application component corresponding to said each application icon in said application layout.

35.   The system according to claim 33, further comprising:

means for presenting a first interactive window area to enable said user to define said application component; and

means for presenting a second interactive window area to enable said user to insert text related to said application component in a predetermined language.

36.   The system according to claim 33, wherein said application component is an application business logic component.

37.   The system according to claim 33, wherein said application component is a data source component.

38.   The system according to claim 33, wherein said application component is a presentation logic component.

39.   A computer readable medium containing executable instructions, which, when executed in a processing system, cause said processing system to perform a method comprising:

        presenting a user interface area to display an application layout of said application, said application layout comprising a plurality of application icons and at least one connection among said plurality of application icons, each application icon corresponding to an application component of said application.

40.   The computer readable medium according to claim 39, wherein said method further comprises:

        facilitating visual modification of said application layout.

41.   The computer readable medium according to claim 40, wherein said facilitating further comprises:

        facilitating selection of an application icon of said plurality of application icons; and

facilitating modification of a position of said application icon within said application layout.

42.   The computer readable medium according to claim 41, wherein facilitating said selection further comprises:

facilitating display of said application icon in a highlighted color within said application layout.

43.   The computer readable medium according to claim 41, wherein facilitating said modification of said position further comprises:

facilitating repositioning of at least one remaining application icon of said plurality of application icons connected to said application icon via said at least one connection.

44.   The computer readable medium according to claim 40, wherein said facilitating further comprises:

facilitating selection of a connection of said at least one connection; and

facilitating modification of said connection within said application layout.

45.   The computer readable medium according to claim 44, wherein facilitating said modification of said connection further comprises:

facilitating visual modification of a type of said connection.

46. The computer readable medium according to claim 45, wherein said type defines a two-point connection.

47. The computer readable medium according to claim 45, wherein said type defines a multi-point connection.

48. The computer readable medium according to claim 44, wherein facilitating said modification of said connection further comprises:

facilitating visual modification of a position of said connection between adjacent application icons within said application layout.

49. The computer readable medium according to claim 39, wherein said method further comprises:

facilitating selection of a destination file to store said application layout; and

facilitating storage of said application layout in said destination file.

50. The computer readable medium according to claim 39, wherein said method further comprises:

facilitating display of a scaled rendering of said application layout in an interactive window area adjacent to said user interface area.

51.   The computer readable medium according to claim 50, wherein said

method further comprises:

facilitating selection of an application icon of said plurality of application

icons in said interactive window area; and

responsive to said selection, facilitating selection of said application icon

in said application layout within said user interface area.

52.   The computer readable medium according to claim 39, wherein said

method further comprises:

facilitating insertion of each application icon of said plurality of

application icons in said application layout; and

responsive to said insertion, facilitating dynamic linking of said each

application icon using said at least one connection.

53.   The computer readable medium according to claim 52, wherein

facilitating said insertion further comprises:

facilitating renaming of said application component corresponding to said

each application icon in said application layout.

54.   The computer readable medium according to claim 52, wherein said

method further comprises:

presenting a first interactive window area to enable said user to define

said application component; and

presenting a second interactive window area to enable said user to insert

text related to said application component in a predetermined language.

55.   The computer readable medium according to claim 52, wherein said

application component is an application business logic component.

56.   The computer readable medium according to claim 52, wherein said

application component is a data source component.

57.   The computer readable medium according to claim 52, wherein said

application component is a presentation logic component.

58.   A system to facilitate visual representation of an application to provide

data to a user, said system comprising:

an application editor to present a user interface area to display an

application layout of said application, said application layout comprising a

plurality of application icons and at least one connection that connects said

plurality of application icons, each application icon corresponding to an

application component of said application.

59. The system according to claim 58, wherein said application editor facilitates visual modification of said application layout.

60. The system according to claim 59, wherein said application editor further:

facilitates selection of an application icon of said plurality of application icons; and

facilitates modification of a position of said application icon within said application layout.

61. The system according to claim 60, wherein said application editor further facilitates display of said application icon in a highlighted color within said application layout.

62. The system according to claim 60, wherein said application editor further facilitates repositioning of at least one remaining application icon of said plurality of application icons connected to said application icon via said at least one connection.

63. The system according to claim 59, wherein said application editor further:

facilitates selection of a connection of said at least one connection; and

facilitates modification of said connection within said application layout.

64.   The system according to claim 63, wherein said application editor further facilitates visual modification of a type of said connection.

65.   The system according to claim 64, wherein said type defines a two-point connection.

66.   The system according to claim 64, wherein said type defines a multi-point connection.

67.   The system according to claim 63, wherein said application editor further facilitates visual modification of a position of said connection between adjacent application icons within said application layout.

68.   The system according to claim 58, wherein said application editor further:

facilitates selection of a destination file to store said application layout; and

facilitates storage of said application layout in said destination file.

69.   The system according to claim 58, wherein said application editor further facilitates display of a scaled rendering of said application layout in an interactive window area adjacent to said user interface area.

70.   The system according to claim 69, wherein said application editor further:

facilitates selection of an application icon of said plurality of application

icons in said interactive window area; and

responsive to said selection, facilitates selection of said application icon in

said application layout within said user interface area.

71.   The system according to claim 58, wherein said application editor further:

facilitates insertion of each application icon of said plurality of application

icons in said application layout; and

responsive to said insertion, facilitates dynamic linking of said each

application icon using said at least one connection.

72.   The system according to claim 71, wherein said application editor further

facilitates renaming of said application component corresponding to said each

application icon in said application layout.

73.   The system according to claim 71, further comprising:

an application component editor coupled to said application editor to

present a first interactive window area to enable said user to define said

application component, and to present a second interactive window area to

enable said user to insert text related to said application component in a

predetermined language.